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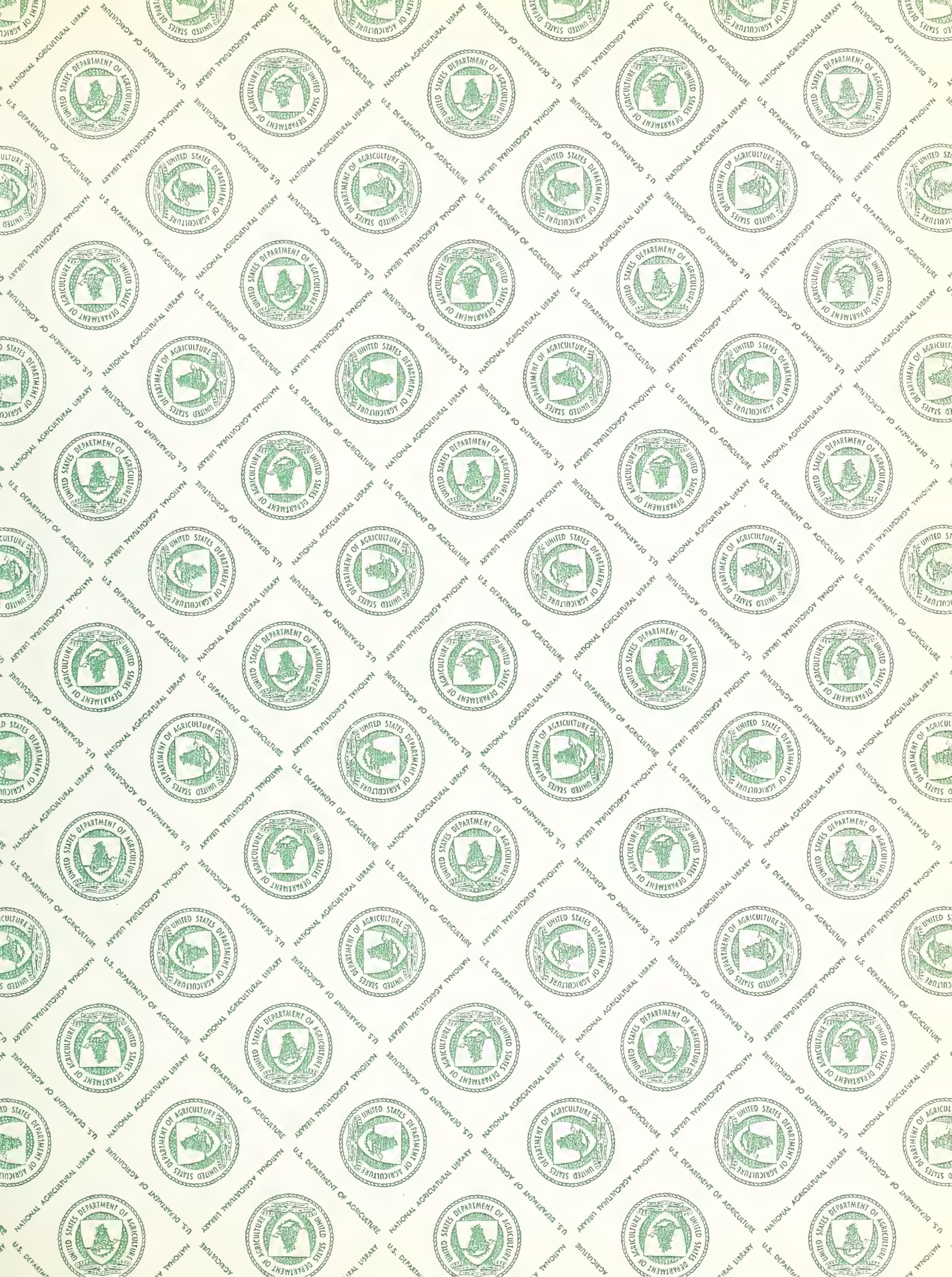
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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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AMS

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF EGGS, 1958

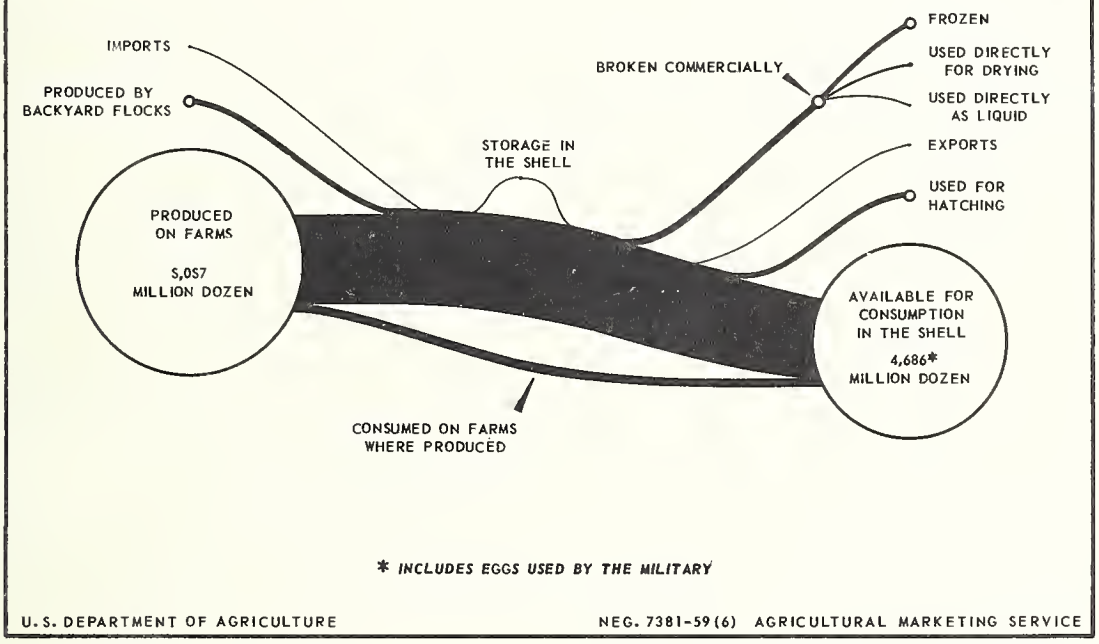

Table use of shell eggs has been by far the largest outlet for the almost 170 million cases of eggs produced on U. S. farms in typical recent years. Use of commercially-broken eggs -- in either liquid, frozen, or dried form -- accounted for somewhat less than 10 percent of 1958 consumption of 349 eggs per person. Average consumption per person in 1959 of both shell and processed eggs is likely to exceed 1958 slightly.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1948-57	1958	1959	Month or date	Average 1948-57	1958	1959	Comments on current situation
EGGS										
Farm production	Mil.cases	May	15.6	15.4	15.9	June	13.5	14.0	14.3	Smaller excess over last year than March-April excess
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	May	304.5	286.6	292.4	June	290.5	280.7	281.4	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	May	18.5	19.3	19.6	June	16.8	17.9	18.2	
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Apr.	30.8	27.2	26.1	May	29.8	26.4	27.4	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	65.9	51.7	71.8	May	67.6	68.8	75.4	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	5.0	2.8	6.3	May	5.4	3.0	6.9	
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	May	37.4	36.8	25.1	June	37.6	35.2	24.9	Prices have risen since mid-June
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Pct.	May	86	82	58	June	84	78	58	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	Apr.	57.2	57.2	46.6	May	56.8	54.9	43.7	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	9.7	10.5	7.3	June	9.8	10.1	7.3	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	May 1	1,392	322	532	June 1	2,331	705	998	Net reduction of stocks began in last week of June
Frozen	Mil. lb.	May 1	124.2	68.3	85.1	June 1	162.9	100.6	122.3	
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	Apr.	---	135.4	132.9	May	---	109.7	87.9	
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	May	3.88	3.51	3.45	June	3.84	3.48	3.42	
POULTRY										
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										Broiler prices rose after mid-June
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	May	26.5	20.3	16.0	June	26.7	21.1	15.8	
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	22.9	16.7	11.4	June	21.9	16.0	10.1	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	25.3	19.9	15.5	June	25.0	20.4	15.1	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Pct.	May	83	69	57	June	83	71	56	
Retail price of broilers and fryers ready-to-cook (AMS) 1/	Ct. per lb.	Apr.	57.1	47.7	42.7	May	55.9	48.6	42.1	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	May	31.6	27.3	22.4	June	31.3	25.5	22.5	
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	May 1	87.4	72.5	128.6	June 1	78.1	61.3	131.0	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	May 1	68.3	104.7	86.7	June 1	58.3	84.2	67.4	Deficit in stocks, compared with last year, is equal to 1 million turkeys
Broiler-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	5.0	4.0	3.3	June	5.1	4.2	3.2	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	8.2	7.8	6.5	June	8.2	7.3	6.6	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Mil.	May	---	35.5	34.3	June	---	36.6	34.0	

1/ This series has been revised, and these numbers are not directly comparable with those previously printed on this line. The revised series will be printed in the next Poultry and Egg Situation.

254618

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

APPROVED BY THE OUTLOOK AND SITUATION BOARD JULY 10, 1959

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SUMMARY

The outlook is for limited seasonal egg price rises in the next few months, with the increases--as usual--most pronounced for large eggs of the better grades. However, U. S. average prices are not likely to exceed 1958 for any length of time until possibly the last month or two of the year.

In mid-June egg prices began a sharp recovery from the very low levels to which they had fallen in the preceding 2 months. Despite a slight recession from their peak, in early July nearby eggs in New York City, at 44 cents per dozen for large whites, were about 3 cents below the year before, while some quotations on the West Coast were even closer to last year. Chicago prices were about 8 cents below 1958. Earlier this spring prices had been generally 10 to 14 cents per dozen lower than a year earlier.

In mid-June the U. S. average price received by farmers for eggs was 24.9 cents per dozen, compared with 35.2 cents in June 1958. The rapid rise in egg prices since mid-June has brought the U. S. average price much closer to 1958.

Seasonally declining supplies of eggs are a factor in the recent rise, following a greater than seasonal reduction in the size of the national flock during May and June. In addition, considerable U.S.D.A. purchases of

Egg and Poultry Statistics through 1957; single copies are available for free distribution from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Ask for Statistical Bulletin 249. Supplements will be issued from time to time to bring it up-to-date.

dried egg, and an extension of the purchase program to frozen egg, have helped to absorb the heavy egg production relative to last year. Production in January-June was 5 percent--4 million cases--above 1958.

Increased commercial storage also helped to absorb the additional egg production. Stocks on June 1 included 0.3 million cases more shell eggs than last year, and the equivalent of more than 0.5 million cases more than last year of eggs in frozen form. Use of eggs per person by civilian consumers in January-May 1959 was not above the same period of 1958, even though retail prices ranged from 2 percent below a year earlier in February to 20 percent below in May. But total consumption increased with the rise of almost 2 percent in the number of consumers. In the remainder of 1959, per capita civilian consumption is likely to exceed the corresponding months of 1958, reflecting continued large production that is in prospect, ample supplies in storage, and lower retail prices.

Because of the reduction in the size of the national laying flock during May and June, the July 1 flock was 1 percent smaller than last year. The number of pullets for laying flock replacement to mature before October 1 is larger than a year ago, and rate-of-lay per bird still increases from year to year. As a result, monthly egg production in the remaining months of 1959 is likely to exceed 1958. On January 1, 1960, the number of layers on hand will probably be almost as large as the 327 million of January 1, 1959.

Broiler prices picked up noticeably during the last half of June. A further rise is likely by late July or August, because weekly chick placements have been declining, and since early May have been below the year before. The reduction in broiler marketings will be greatest in late July and August when consumer demand for frying chicken is usually at its seasonal peak.

The mid-June U. S. average broiler price, 15.8 cents per pound, was the lowest mid-month average to date for 1959. This did not reflect the price increases of 2 cents per pound or more which occurred later in the month. Average prices in late July and August are likely to exceed the 17+ cents of January-March.

If broiler prices increase as anticipated, weekly egg settings and chick placements are unlikely to continue 7 and 8 percent below last year, as they had been in recent weeks.

The 1959 turkey crop is likely to slightly exceed the record of 81 million turkeys raised in 1957. An increased proportion of the crop will be Beltsvilles and large white turkeys, and fewer will be Bronze, than in both 1957 and 1958.

The increase from last year in the turkey crop came in the hatches of May and earlier. This indicates larger slaughter in the late summer months than last year, much of which will move into storage until the holidays. Recent prices for hens and other lightweight birds have been at a low level which may be reflected in offering prices for such birds during the into-storage season. Last year, USDA bought 23 million pounds of frozen turkey from August through December.

Turkey slaughter after October is likely to be below 1958 since fewer eggs were in incubators at the beginning of June than a year earlier, and settings have since declined further. This, coupled with the facts that part of the increased turkey crop is already slaughtered and eaten, and that storage stocks are below last year, are plus factors in the turkey price outlook for the closing months of this year.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Egg Prices Recover Sharply in Mid- and Late June

After about two months during which wholesale egg prices were the lowest since 1941, a sharp recovery began in mid-June. From mid-June through the first week of July the net amount of this price increase, which was partly seasonal, amounted to 13 cents per dozen on large nearby eggs in New York City, about 3 cents on mixed colors large extras in Chicago, and about 5 cents on Grade A large at country points in Iowa. In early July, these respective grades of eggs were quoted as follows in the specified markets, with the year-ago prices 1/ listed in parentheses: 39 1/2-44 cents per dozen, (42); 26 1/2-28 cents (38); and 23-25 cents (33). Even after their late June increase, and partly on account of some price reaction from the late June peaks, most egg prices remain considerably below last year. (Table 3.) Some of the increased supply has gone into commercial storage, as either shell or frozen egg. (Tables 4 and 5.) These and other dispositions are discussed in considerable detail in later sections of this report. The increase in consumption per person, in response to lower retail prices, has been small, and was not apparent before May. A part of the supply increase has been absorbed by Government purchases.

The outlook is for limited seasonal egg price rises in the next few months, 2/ with the increases--as usual--most pronounced for large eggs of the better grades. However, if prices should rise substantially during this period when it is still practical to keep 1958-hatched layers, sales of hens would be delayed. This would tend to sustain production and limit possible price increases.

1/ Top of the range.

2/ The late-June rise of approximately 20 percent is equivalent to the entire "normal" seasonal rise from June to October. But if the July level of prices is taken as a base, a further increase of about 13 percent would be "normal", in view of the seasonal adjustment factors applicable for those months (June, 91; July, 96; October, the peak month, 109).

Government Purchases Broadened; Frozen Egg Bought in June

In response to the difficult conditions which confronted egg producers, the Department of Agriculture broadened its purchase program to include frozen eggs. Announcement of this change was made on June 2, and initial purchases of 1.3 million pounds were made from offers tendered on June 16. The program continues with weekly offers and acceptances, until announcement to the contrary. To July 9, about 3 million pounds of frozen egg have been bought, in addition to weekly purchases of egg solids.

This program supplements the continuing program for the purchase of dried whole egg solids (dried egg). The 1958-59 purchases began in October with a program limited to the capacity of outlets available through the National School Lunch Program. Under an authorization on that basis, almost 12 million pounds were bought by April 16, by which time prospective requirements of the school lunch system were met. Accordingly, at that time the basis for purchases of dried egg was shifted to a surplus removal program, and the intended disposition of the acquired product was broadened to include welfare and institutional outlets. For the former, purchases are being made in No. 2 1/2 cans as well as in the No. 10 cans used in the initial program.

The latest revision of the program has been the addition of frozen egg to the list of items purchased. Quantities purchased are being held in storage, for later drying and eventual use in the National School Lunch Program.

The extent of the weekly purchases under these various authorizations, and representative paying prices, are shown in table 6. That table also converts the purchases from pounds to case equivalent, permitting comparisons with data on farm output (table 7) and on quantity of eggs broken commercially (i.e., liquid egg production, table 8). Such comparisons indicate that from the beginning of current purchases to the end of the period covered by most recent production estimates, the programs have been equivalent to almost 1 1/2 percent of the egg production on farms, 15 percent of the liquid egg production, and 40 percent of the production of all dried egg. The program purchases of egg solids were equivalent to more than three-quarters of concurrent production of dried whole egg (excluding seperate yolk and albumen).

The extent of the use of eggs in schools is discussed in an article beginning on page 9 of this report.

1959 Per Capita Egg Consumption Down through April; Increase to 353 Expected for Year

Consumption of shell eggs per person from late 1958 through April was below a year earlier, despite lower retail prices. In May, for the first time in 6 months, per capita egg consumption was larger than in the same period 12 months before. Retail prices have been below a year earlier in every month of this year, ranging from 2 percent below last year in February to 20 percent in May. (Table 9.) 1/ U. S. average retail egg prices were below the year before by roughly the same amount as the farmers average price from late 1958 through May.

For the year as a whole, average per capita egg consumption is likely to exceed the 349 eggs of 1958, reflecting the larger production of eggs expected for this year, lower retail prices, and record consumer incomes. Most of the increase will take place in the second half of the year as consumption did not become larger than a year earlier until in May. It probably also was larger in June. The potential for increasing egg consumption still is much better for the second half of a calendar year than the first half, since consumption is seasonally smaller during the July-December period. In most months of a January-June period, egg consumption is already so high that consumers response to price changes is very small. This fact, in addition to some lag on the part of consumers in adjusting to price changes, helps explain the fact that monthly consumption of eggs did not rise above a year earlier until May when an inducement of 20 percent reduction in price prevailed. Part of the expected increase in consumption, over last year, will be through the consumption of products containing dried or frozen egg, or commercially broken-out egg liquid. In view of the continuing purchases for school lunches, part of the increase in use of frozen or dried egg will be by that channel. An additional amount will be by commercial channels, since in the first 4 months of 1959 the commercial breaking of eggs was 60 percent above last year. Only about 25 percentage points of this increase were necessary to meet contracts for deliveries to USDA. Average per capita egg consumption for 1959 is likely to be about 353 eggs. Last year's smaller total of 349 was divided into 323 shell eggs, and the equivalent of 26 more in processed form.

The apparent failure of egg consumption to respond to low prices has been a cause of considerable concern to the poultry industry. It indicates a declining demand as well as an inelastic demand. The interaction between prices and average per capita consumption is complicated, however, by a possible lag in the adjustment of consumer purchases to lower retail prices.

The declining demand is indicated by the generally downward trend of egg prices over the past 10 years despite smaller per capita supplies. This conclusion is especially startling in view of the fact that retail egg prices have been trending down since 1947-49 while those for most other classes of foods have been rising.

1/ The monthly consumption figures for 1959 to date on which this discussion is based are preliminary, but the final figures are not likely to greatly alter these conclusions.

The inelastic demand is indicated by the data in table 9, which shows prices and consumption. Comparisons of any particular month with either the same month the year before or with the immediately preceding month, show that consumption seldom if ever changes by as large a percentage as prices. Even when prices rise sharply, as they did in March 1958, consumption is not cut back much.

Several reasons help to explain these aspects of consumption. First, despite its decline from the 1945 record of 402 eggs per person, to a postwar low in 1958, egg consumption remains higher than in any year before 1944. Next, eggs have become "typed" as being primarily a breakfast food, a role in which they meet strong sales competition from branded and heavily-advertised breakfast cereals (and even from the mid-morning coffee break, which reduces peoples' dependence upon a hearty breakfast). Also, breakfast seems to have suffered in the general trend toward a reduced caloric intake of foods. Finally, some students of the situation claim that diet fads and concern about cholesterol have reduced the demand for eggs, although other equally prominent authorities recommend continued use of eggs even for dieters.

Because of the failure of egg consumption to quickly increase even when prices decline sharply, advertising and promotion are often urged as a means of stimulating demand for eggs. During the recent egg price break, this stimulus was used by trade associations, retailers, and Government agencies.

Storage Holdings Above Last Year, Interrupting Downward Trend of Recent Years

On June 1, storage stocks of shell eggs were 40 percent (almost 300,000 cases) above the record low level of the year before, and frozen egg stocks were 22 percent above last year, an increase equivalent to 550,000 cases. In the 35 cities for which weekly reports are available, the additions to stocks in the first 3 weeks of June were almost up to year-ago levels. For the fourth week of June, however, there were net withdrawals of shell eggs from storage. The price rise to that time made it profitable to sell eggs that had been stored only a few weeks earlier.

Although June 1 stocks of shell eggs were greater than last year, they were lower than June 1 holdings for any other year since 1916, when records were begun. Storage of shell eggs has been declining because the smoothing out of the seasonal production pattern has the general effect of smoothing out the seasonal price pattern as well. This has greatly reduced the profit incentive for shell egg storage.

The trend toward only limited seasonal egg price change also is beginning to limit storage of frozen egg, though storage of this product is less vulnerable than shell eggs to the flatter seasonal price curve. For shell eggs, the storer wants the basic price increase from spring to fall to cover costs as well as the discount at which the stored product sells in relation to fresh. For frozen egg there is no such discount. As a matter of fact, spring-packed goods often sell at a premium because of their frequent deeper color; deep coloring is sought by bakers for the desirable effect it has upon the appearance of pastries. Nevertheless, under the conditions of recent years, some large-scale breaking plants have organized on the basis of year-round production. Year-round operations are standard for some relatively small firms in terminal-markets, but these are essentially salvage operations rather than procedures based on the processing of nest-run eggs. Year-round breakers in terminal markets often use checks (cracks), stains and other under-grade eggs, while the usual country breaking operation uses nest-run eggs when they are seasonally cheap, and closes down in other months of the year.

The net accumulation of shell and frozen egg in storage from March 1, 1959 to July 1 (the June accumulation being partly estimated) is equivalent to 3.7 million cases of eggs, about 6 percent of farm production in that period. In 1958, the equivalent diversion was 3.1 million cases, about 4 percent of production. One-fifth of the 5 percent increase in production of eggs on farms for March-June over a year earlier was stored, about two-fifths were bought by the Department of Agriculture, and almost two-fifths were used by the expanding population. The remainder went to increased exports and hatching.

Low Egg Prices Speeded Culling, but High Monthly Egg Production to Continue

The size of the national laying flock declined more in May -- compared with last year -- than in any preceding month of 1959. The flock size declined from 103 percent of 1958 at the beginning of the month, to 101 percent at the end of the month.

This trend probably continued in early June, but the recovery in egg prices may have slowed the disposition of laying birds in the past few weeks. On July 1, the national laying flock of 276 million birds, was only 99 percent of July 1, 1958. The reduction in the laying flock relative to last year reflects both greater culling of less productive birds, and the liquidation of entire flocks. To some extent, these reductions are offset by the establishment of new flocks in the last year. For example, the creation of new flocks accounts for part of the large percentage increases over last year in numbers of layers for the following States: South Carolina, +19 percent; Georgia, +13 percent; Virginia, +12 percent; Mississippi, +10 percent; and Alabama, +9 percent.

Culling in May, when egg prices were low, probably included many birds for which the normal culling time would have been some months later. Therefore, if egg prices make even modest seasonal gains from their present levels, it is possible that culling in the next few months will be less than in the corresponding 1958 months.

Data from the weekly poultry slaughter report suggests that the rate of slaughter of hens was declining (relative to last year) even before the pickup in egg prices. Since early May, weekly slaughter of hens and cocks

was as follows, each figure representing the percentage of the corresponding week in the year before.

Week ending	Slaughter as a percent of year earlier
May 2	187
May 9	154
May 16	180
May 23	153
May 30	137
June 6	116
June 13	92
June 20	106
June 27	104

Replacement Hatch Turns Down At End of Season

Regardless of the rate of culling, large numbers of pullets from chicks hatched through April will reach laying age in every month through September.(Table 13). The May hatch of replacement chicks was down sharply, however -- 20 percent below last May -- and by October the number of pullets coming into lay will likewise be reduced. The pullets coming into lay in the first 9 months of this year are from hatches between August 1958 and April 1959; the sum of those hatches (in 1958-59) was 6 percent greater than in 1957-58.

Though 31 percent or more below a year earlier, the June replacement hatch (based on eggs reported in incubators June 1) was sharply below May. Because of the seasonally-declining size of the hatch, the larger percentage reduction from last year will nevertheless contribute less to the reduction in pullets next fall than the reduction in the May hatch.

Because of the large hatch from late 1958 through May 1959, the number of pullets on farms this fall and early winter is likely to be above last year. The number of hens may be down on account of the culling. The net result is likely to be only a small reduction in the flock next winter, probably by a smaller percentage than the prospective increase in rate of lay at that season.

The largest increases in 1959 hatches to date of egg-type chicks were in the Southern and Southeastern regions, including the States which have already been mentioned as having expanded most in numbers of layers. (Table 14.) Because chicks are easily shipped for considerable distances, the State of hatching is not necessarily the State where the bird is reared; nevertheless, these increases from last year in January-May hatchings -- Georgia, +94 percent; Mississippi, +60 percent; Alabama, +35 percent -- indicate an important Southeastward orientation of egg production, although total egg production in the South Atlantic States is still only about one-tenth of the total U. S. Outside of the South, the most notable increase is in California -- +19 percent.

In constrast, the New England, Mid-Atlantic, North Central, and Mountain regions all hatched fewer egg-type chicks in January -May 1959 than in the same months of 1958.

Broilers: Smaller Supply in Prospect, Higher July, August, Price Expected

Broiler prices in important producing areas rose about 2 cents per pound during June, closing the month at 16 cents per pound at the farm in Georgia. A further rise is probable in July, because the number of broilers maturing will be declining, while demand will be at its seasonal peak. The decline in eggs set in incubators and chicks subsequently placed has run to the point where late July and August slaughter of broilers will be below 1958. (Table 18.)

In mid-June the U. S. average price received by farmers for broilers was 15.8 cents per pound, down slightly from the month before (16.0 cents), but considerably lower than the year before (21.1 cents). Quotations since mid-June have moved upward in the principal producing areas. (Table 19.) On account of the prospective smaller supplies, prices two to six weeks hence are likely to be the highest of the year to date.

While the reduced quantity of broilers that is in prospect will tend to raise prices, the rise at the farm level may be somewhat tempered by a possible shift in retail pricing practice. When broilers are cheap, as they have been for a year, retailers use them frequently for weekend specials, at prices that do not reflect full markups by either the processor or the retailer or the possible handler in between. A large proportion of the sales of broilers in chain stores are under these special circumstances -- typically on weekends -- at reduced markups. If broilers become scarce and more expensive in the next few weeks, it is possible that a reduced number of advertised sales will result in a larger increase in the retail price than in the average farm price.

Storage stocks of broilers and fryers on June 1 were 25 million pounds, 53 percent higher than the average of the 5 preceding years, but even at that level they are not an important market influence. The excess over last June is equal to 4 million broilers, about 3 percent of normal monthly broiler production.

The reduction in hatchings of broiler chicks, from a year earlier, began in the week ending May 9. These hatchings were from eggs set in the week ending April 18. At that time the U. S. average broiler-feed price ratio was 3.3 pounds (of broiler ration that could be bought with the value of 1 pound of broiler). This was the lowest mid-month ratio on record to that time, except for December 1958. Low broiler prices are not unusual late in the year.

Since mid-April, the ratio has remained low -- 3.3 in mid-May, 3.2 in mid-June -- and egg settings have likewise continued low, at generally 7 to 9 percent below 1958. The low prices also are a factor in the reduced sale during May of pullet chicks for breeder flocks (table 20). There is uncertainty, however, whether these indicators of future production will remain low during the expected period of higher broiler prices.

Additional Broiler Auctions

An important development affecting the prices of broilers is the establishment of a broiler exchange (auction) in Gainesville, Georgia, which held its first sale on March 31. Since then an additional exchange has been started in Springdale, Arkansas, and new ones are planned for Cullman, Alabama, and points in North Carolina and in East Texas.

These markets are patterned after the Eastern Shore Poultry Producers' Exchange at Selbyville, Delaware, which has been in continuous operation since June, 1952, and which typically sells about three-quarters of the DelMarVa broiler output. Another eastern poultry exchange which operates similarly, but on a smaller scale, is located at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

During June, 6 million broilers were sold by the Gainesville Exchange, over one-fifth of the 29 million broilers produced in Georgia during the period. (Table 21.)

Record Turkey Crop, but
Lighter Marketings at Year-End

Marketings of turkeys are rising toward the seasonal high point, which last year occurred in October and early November, and this year will be about the same. Meanwhile, few toms are ready for slaughter and the available hens are generally of lighter than average weight. Pending increased marketings of new-crop toms, their late-June prices were firm and considerably higher than at the beginning of 1959. Hen prices, and prices of small turkeys, were weak, and slightly lower than at the beginning of 1959. At mid-June, the U. S. average price received by farmers for all turkeys -- 22.5 cents per pound -- was 3 cents lower than the 25.5 cents of June, 1958. (Table 22.)

This year's turkey crop will probably exceed the record 81 million raised in 1957. The 1958 crop was 78 million. Hatchings from September 1958 to date (table 23) are about 7 percent ahead of last year and slightly larger than those of 1957.

A large part of the increase in the 1959 crop occurred in the hatches of the early months, and those turkeys have already been eaten. In November and December, the number of turkeys slaughtered is likely to actually fall short of 1958, judging by the prospective June and July hatches.

In addition to the smaller marketings expected for the last months of the year, the reduced volume of recent storage stocks is an encouraging factor in the turkey outlook. At 67 million pounds on June 1, these stocks were 17 million pounds fewer than the year before. (Table 24.) This difference is equivalent to approximately 1 million turkeys, which offsets almost half of the March-May excess of hatchings over last year. After May, turkey hatchings are likely to be smaller than last year: June 1 eggs in incubators were 4 percent fewer than last year, and 11-State weekly reports suggest that this downward trend is continuing.

The net increase over 1958 in the 1959 turkey crop is likely to be almost entirely among Beltsville type turkeys. About the same number of heavy type turkeys were hatched from September 1958 to date as the year before. A larger proportion of the heavy poults are white feathered, and fewer are Bronze, than last year. The proportions of white to bronze for the hatch to date 1/ are 20:80 compared with 16:84 through June 1958.

Meanwhile, the number of light-breed poults hatched to date -- mostly Beltsvilles -- is up by 40 percent, an addition of 2 1/2 million poults over last year. The detailed numbers regarding these changes are shown in table 23.

Last fall, about 23 million pounds of frozen turkey -- more than 2 percent of the year's crop -- was bought by USDA for school lunches.

1/ Assuming that the June hatch is in proportion to June 1 eggs in incubators.

POULTRY AND EGGS IN THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM 1/

The National School Lunch Program has helped to enlarge the market for poultry and eggs in the public schools. In 1957-58, schools enrolled in the program served each child over twice as much chicken, more than 3 times as much turkey and slightly more eggs than public schools serving meals that were not in the program. These facts were revealed by a survey covering the year ending June 1958, conducted by the Department of Agriculture's Marketing Research Division.

Today about 11.5 million children in slightly more than half of the Nation's public schools take part in the National School Lunch Program. In addition, plate lunches are now served in more than 10 percent of the public schools that are not in the Federal-State Program. The National School Lunch Program is jointly administered by the Department of Agriculture and State educational agencies and provides food assistance to schools operating a nonprofit food service for children.

In the survey year, July 1957 through June 1958, public schools in the National Program used over 28 million pounds of ready-to-cook poultry and the equivalent of over 35 million pounds of shell eggs. This represented 1.4 pounds of poultry and 1.8 pounds of eggs per school year per child in average daily attendance. For three main reasons these consumption figures tend to understate the true per capita consumption rate. First, only about half of the children in public schools in the National School Lunch Program participate daily in the program. Then, too, the typical school year is only about 180 days. Finally, children eat only lunch at school rather than three meals a day. When these factors are taken into consideration the 365 day-year consumption rates per child eating at school becomes about 12 times as great as the unadjusted rates given above. The value of poultry and eggs made up slightly over 3.7 cents of the school food dollar in the year ending June 1958.

The Government contracted for substantially larger quantities of eggs from July 1958 through June 1959 than in any other similar period since 1950-51. This suggests that public schools in the school year recently ended used -- and in the coming year will continue to use from recently acquired stocks -- more eggs than in the survey period.

The latest turkey buying program which ended last February is also likely to result in much larger donations to the schools. During 1958-59 about 23.6 million pounds of ready-to-cook turkey was acquired. In the survey year public schools in NSLP used only .8 million pounds that came from stocks donated by the Department of Agriculture.

Family income appeared to be related to the value of poultry and eggs used. In areas where family incomes averaged $4,000 and over, schools spent more per capita on poultry but less on eggs than those in lower income areas. In urban areas with a population of 2,500 or more, schools showed a similar expenditure pattern. We would expect this since family incomes in urban areas tend to be higher than in rural areas.

In the survey year private firms rather than the Government, supplied most of the poultry and eggs used in Program. Individual schools purchased 74 percent of the total value of these products from local wholesalers and retailers. Over 95 percent of these expenditures for poultry and eggs were made at the wholesale level. Both small and large schools depended upon wholesalers to about the same extent.

Orders placed through route salesmen or by telephone accounted for about 80 percent of the schools' expenditures for poultry and over 70 percent for eggs. About 1/4 of the expenditures were made through competitive bidding--getting price quotations from two or more suppliers before placing orders. Large schools used competitive bidding to a greater degree than small schools. Small schools, those with an enrollment of less than 300 pupils, frequently made a personal selection of poultry.

Each year the Department of Agriculture receives an appropriation of funds to carry out its part of the National School Lunch Program. The Department allocates the major portion of these funds among the States for the purchase of food at the local level by schools participating in the program. Payments to NSLP schools have recently averaged about 4 1/2 cents per type A lunch. In addition the Department spends about $15 million a year to buy for participating schools certain foods in plentiful supply that are considered to be "good buys." In addition, commodities acquired with other funds under price support and surplus removal programs, are donated directly to both participating and non-participating school lunch programs.

In the year of the survey, July 1957-June 1958, chicken, all purchased at the local level through commercial channels, was the most important poultry item delivered to public schools in the National Program. Deliveries totaled 18 million pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. Turkey deliveries came to 11 million pounds (ready-to-cook). About 9 percent of the turkey was donated; the rest was procured through commercial channels. The Government donated practically all dried eggs, equivalent to 21 million pounds of shell eggs, used by the public schools in NSLP, while these schools obtained 14 million pounds of shell eggs, all from private suppliers.

The National School Lunch Program emphasizes a well-balanced plate lunch. This introduces children to new foods or familiar foods in new forms and is intended to encourage good eating habits. These foods habits are expected to carry over into adult life and to stimulate the future demand for nutritious foods such as poultry and eggs.

1/ This has been adapted by Herman Bluestone from a report on "The Market for Food in the Nation's Schools", by William S. Hoofnagle and Kenneth E. Anderson, Market Research Division, AMS, USDA, and from other sources.

Table 1.--Eggs and poultry delivered to public schools: Quantity and value, July 1957-June 1958

Product and source	Totals				Per child 1/			
	Public schools in NSLP		Other public schools with food services		Public schools in NSLP		Other public schools with food services	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	1,000 lb.	1,000 dol.	1,000 lb.	1,000 dol.	Lb.	Dol.	Lb.	Dol.
Chicken: 2/								
Purchased through commercial channels:								
Fresh and frozen	13,951	4,606	717	298	.71	.24	.38	.16
Canned	3,752	2,140	32	19	.19	.11	.02	.01
Total chicken	17,703	6,746	749	317	.90	.35	.40	.17
Turkey: 2/								
Purchased through commercial channels:								
Fresh and frozen	8,996	3,502	204	89	.46	.18	.11	.05
Canned	791	522	36	28	.04	.03	.02	.01
Total	9,787	4,024	240	117	.50	.21	.13	.06
Donated by the Government:								
Fresh and frozen	938	375	64	26	.05	.02	.03	.01
Total turkey	10,725	4,399	304	143	.55	.22	.16	.08
Other poultry: 2/								
Purchased through commercial channels	62	49	0	0	---	---	0	0
Total poultry	28,490	11,194	1,053	460	1.45	.57	.56	.24
Eggs								
Solids (dried eggs): 3/								
Purchased through commercial channels	125	18	0	0	.01	---	0	0
Donated by the Government	21,376	4,962	785	202	1.09	.25	.42	.11
Total	21,501	4,980	785	202	1.10	.25	.42	.11
Shell:								
Purchased through commercial channels	13,826	4,346	2,365	435	.71	.22	1.25	.23
Total eggs	35,327	9,326	3,150	637	1.80	.48	1.67	.34

1/ Based on average daily attendance. Sum of ratios may not add to totals due to rounding.

2/ The weight of all poultry items including canned poultry is expressed as an equivalent amount of ready-to-cook poultry.

3/ The weight of dried egg is expressed as the weight of an equivalent amount of shell eggs.

Table 2.--U.S.D.A. purchases of eggs and turkey for school lunches and other distributions, 1950-59

Year ending June	Shell eggs 1/	Dried egg 1/ 2/	Ready-to-cook turkey 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1950	---	4/356.4	7.1
1951	---	4/100.1	22.9
1952	10.7	---	---
1953	---	---	48.2
1954	---	---	---
1955	24.0	---	---
1956	---	---	---
1957	14.8	20.9	25.4
1958	---	---	---
1959	---	5/83.3	23.6

1/ Contracts to purchase eggs, classified by period in which purchase contract was let and not adjusted for contract cancellations.

2/ Represents weight of shell eggs required to yield dried egg purchases.

3/ Contracts to purchase turkey, classified by period specified for delivery and not adjusted for contract cancellations.

4/ Purchased under discretionary authority of the Secretary of Agriculture toward price objective of 75 percent of parity.

5/ Includes 2.2 million pounds purchased as frozen eggs which are currently being stored for later drying and eventual use in the National School Lunch Program.

Table 3.--Egg prices: Selected dates, 1959, with comparisons

Item	1958				1959		
	May 15	June 16	July 15	August 15	May 18	June 15	July 8
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average mid-month price received by farmers, per dozen:	36.8	35.2	35.9	36.9	25.1	24.9	
Iowa; prices received by farmers, per dozen 1/:							
Grade A, Large	30-31	28-30	29-31	30-31	17-19	18-19	23-25
Grade A, Medium	26-28	24-25	24-26	24-25	14-16	14-16	18-20
New York, wholesale prices							
Midwestern, mixed colors, per dozen:							
Fancy heavy-weights	37½-38½	39-40½	38½-40	39½-41½	25-26	26½-28	34-35
Extras 1, medium	35-36	31-32	32½-33½	32½-33½	20-21	22-23	30-31
Nearby whites, per dozen:							
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	37-39	40-42	39-42	46-50	24½-27	28-31	39½-44
Medium	35-36	31-32	32½-33½	32-33½	20-21½	22-23	32-33
Small (pullets)	28-29½	26-27	29½-31	26-27	16-17	18½-19½	20-21
Frozen egg, per pound 2/:							
Mixed whole egg, spring pack	30½-33	30-33	29½-31½	27½-29	22¼-25	24-27	3/25-27
Yolk 4/	62-63	61-63	61-63	60-62	48-51	50½-52	3/52-54
Albumen	13½-15½	12½-15	11½-13	10¾-11½	9½-10½	10-11½	3/10-11
Chicago							
Wholesale price 5/, per dozen:							
Mixed colors, extras,							
Large	35¾-36¾	35½-36	35½-36½	37-37½	23¼-24½	24-25	26½-28
Medium	34-34½	33-33½	31½-34	32½-33	19½-20½	21-22	25-26
Future contracts:							
September delivery (closing price)	39.65	38.65	36.85	31.70	29.10	30.60	30.00
San Francisco, prices cartoned to retailers							
Grade AA, Large	46-49	44-47	48-52	53-57	34-38	35-39	40-44
Grade AA, Medium	39-43	36-40	38-43	43-48	28-33	28-33	32-37

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated. 2/ Carlots. Weekly price. 3/ Week ending July 2. 4/ Highest color quoted. 5/ Through June, 1958; thereafter, "Prices Paid Delivered," 60-79 percent A's.

Table 4.--Shell eggs: Storage stocks, first-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, August 1958 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
	(a) Monthly, United States											
1950	110	380	735	1,296	2,147	3,412	3,667	3,163	2,568	1,558	502	61
1951	34	75	159	309	973	2,083	2,427	2,270	1,615	958	527	230
1952	141	238	942	1,596	2,184	3,184	3,357	2,728	2,169	1,709	1,000	393
1953	153	120	248	375	816	1,431	1,513	1,199	827	494	288	137
1954	89	73	133	442	728	1,348	1,639	1,435	1,031	833	636	325
1955	193	235	258	479	1,183	2,088	2,292	2,244	1,680	1,140	804	333
1956	111	299	306	309	638	1,200	1,453	1,259	1,020	727	616	525
1957	320	328	519	932	1,208	1,719	1,812	1,507	1,174	895	552	302
1958	209	171	105	79	322	705	852	712	494	290	207	140
1959	53	57	52	107	532	998						
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks	1959							1958				
First	39	32	29	75	416	867		600	384	235	163	101
Second	28	29	24	141	567	913		569	318	217	143	84
Third	24	27	41	223	634	942		530	273	197	131	56
Fourth	23	27	37	318	751	916		488	250	169	109	49
Fifth	42				820			434			118	

Table 5.--Frozen egg: Storage stocks, (including USDA-owned stocks where applicable) first-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, August 1958 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
	(a) Monthly, United States											
1950	54	55	73	117	155	180	188	175	155	133	104	76
1951	47	31	33	62	109	163	190	191	176	151	122	95
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	61	95	140	172	177	168	152	132	109
1957	87	75	66	78	108	140	167	177	165	147	124	99
1958	75	64	60	53	68	101	134	140	134	117	94	73
1959	57	47	46	55	85	122						
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks	1959							1958				
First	28	22	22	28	42	69		70	65	58	48	35
Second	27	22	23	31	47	74		69	64	56	46	33
Third	26	21	25	34	53	79		68	62	53	43	31
Fourth	25	22	26	38	59	84		68	60	50	40	30
Fifth	23				64			67			37	

Table 6.--Dried and frozen egg: U.S.D.A. purchases, 1958 to date

Contract date, week ending	Purchases: By weight: For the week	Purchases: By weight: Cumulative	Purchases: Case equivalent: Number	Purchases: Case equivalent: Cumulative	Top weekly price per lb. 1/	Cost of purchases: For the week	Cost of purchases: Cumulative
	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. cs.	Thou. cs.	Dol.	Thou. dol.	Thou. dol.
	(a) Purchases of dried egg solids in #10 cans for School lunches						
Oct. 17, 1958-Apr. 16, 1959	---	11,880	---	1,172	2/1.03-1.24	---	13,906
	(b) Purchases of dried egg solids for welfare distribution 3/						
1959							
April							
23	202	202	20	20	1.11	218	218
30	606	808	60	80	1.12	667	885
May							
7	606	1,414	60	140	1.12	674	1,559
14	740	2,154	73	213	1.12	819	2,378
21	628	2,782	62	275	1.12	692	3,070
28	740	3,522	73	348	1.13	827	3,897
June							
4	202	3,724	20	368	1.13	228	4,125
11	516	4,240	51	419	1.13	573	4,698
18	673	4,913	66	485	1.15	767	5,465
25	493	5,406	49	533	1.15	567	6,032
July							
2	830	6,236	82	615	1.15	954	6,986
	(c) Purchases of frozen mixed whole egg for later drying						
June							
18	1,260	1,260	32	32	0.24	304	304
25	120	1,380	3	35	.24	29	333
July							
2	720	2,100	18	53	.24	176	509

1/ Rounded to the nearest cent.

2/ Range of top weekly paying prices over the 27 week duration of the buying program.

3/ This program, which is continuing, accepts dried egg solids in #2½ and #10 cans. The indicated prices, unless otherwise stated, are for #2½ cans.

Table 7.--Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 1956 to date

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
1956													
Eggs produced on farms	14,353	14,314	16,044	15,556	15,456	13,794	13,219	12,675	12,331	13,386	13,447	14,528	169,103
Shell eggs to storage	188	7	3	329	562	253	-194	-239	-293	-111	-91	-205	209
Eggs broken commercially	230	918	1,627	2,038	2,466	1,905	954	658	351	351	245	331	12,074
Eggs used for hatching	777	1,100	1,223	1,043	713	597	537	477	407	480	487	620	8,541
Balance	13,158	12,289	13,191	12,146	11,715	11,039	11,922	11,779	11,786	12,666	12,806	13,782	148,279
Government purchases:													
Shell	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20	206	281	77	584
1957													
Eggs produced on farms	14,178	13,842	16,247	15,778	15,597	13,889	13,200	12,694	12,261	12,764	12,783	14,044	167,877
Shell eggs to storage	8	191	413	276	511	93	-305	-333	-279	-343	-250	-93	-111
Eggs broken commercially	637	848	1,537	2,015	2,341	1,914	1,178	654	400	328	209	270	12,331
Eggs used for hatching	697	967	1,107	973	713	633	553	513	517	500	553	677	8,403
Balance	13,436	11,836	13,190	12,514	12,032	11,249	11,774	11,860	11,623	12,279	12,271	13,190	147,254
Government purchases:													
Shell	---	169	145	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	314
Dried	---	---	9	195	169	95	---	---	---	---	---	---	468
1958													
Eggs produced on farms	14,611	13,228	15,183	15,283	15,400	13,992	13,589	13,036	12,542	13,383	13,681	14,631	168,559
Shell eggs to storage	-38	-66	-26	243	383	147	-140	-218	-204	-83	-67	-87	-156
Eggs broken commercially	792	935	858	1,642	2,219	1,918	1,125	714	396	427	422	724	12,172
Eggs used for hatching	770	1,023	1,207	1,177	880	767	650	570	583	580	650	727	9,584
Balance	13,087	11,336	13,144	12,221	11,918	11,160	11,954	11,970	11,767	12,459	12,676	13,267	146,959
Government purchases:													
Dried	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	146	264	16	426
1959													
Eggs produced on farms	14,917	14,175	16,533	16,103	15,914	14,256							
Shell eggs to storage	4	-5	55	425	466								
Eggs broken commercially	922	1,410	1,982	2,603	2,822								
Eggs used for hatching	803	1,167	1,203	1,010	600								
Balance	13,188	11,603	13,293	12,065	12,026								
Government purchases:													
Dried	118	209	198	302	268	186							
Frozen	---	---	---	---	---	35							

Table 8.--Monthly production and disposition of liquid egg, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.
					Total production of liquid egg								
1954	30	48	93	85	72	56	25	12	10	11	9	14	466
1955	31	39	68	80	85	72	36	17	9	7	5	4	453
1956	9	35	63	78	95	73	37	25	14	14	9	13	465
1957	25	33	59	78	90	74	45	25	15	13	8	10	475
1958	31	37	34	65	88	76	44	28	16	17	17	29	481
1959	36	56	78	103	111								
					Production of mixed whole liquid egg								
1954	11	16	35	31	23	24	13	6	5	6	5	6	179
1955	9	13	30	31	33	23	13	6	3	3	3	2	170
1956	4	13	22	30	39	29	13	10	6	6	4	6	183
1957	8	10	22	33	38	30	18	12	8	6	4	5	194
1958	13	14	12	24	32	27	18	12	6	8	9	17	193
1959	22	28	40	49	53								
					Quantity of liquid egg used directly for drying 1/								
1954	5	7	12	11	12	8	5	3	2	3	2	4	74
1955	8	8	9	12	11	11	9	5	3	2	1	1	79
1956	1	5	11	14	14	9	7	6	4	4	3	5	83
1957	8	7	10	15	17	15	12	7	4	4	3	2	103
1958	6	7	5	11	13	11	9	8	4	6	7	10	99
1959	11	20	55	27	28								
					Quantity of liquid egg frozen 1/								
1954	22	36	76	70	55	45	18	8	7	8	6	10	361
1955	20	27	55	65	69	53	26	10	5	4	4	3	342
1956	7	26	49	61	75	57	27	18	8	9	6	7	349
1957	14	20	45	60	66	52	30	17	10	7	5	8	334
1958	23	26	27	52	69	58	33	19	10	9	9	17	351
1959	22	30	19	72	75								

1/ Includes separated yolk and albumen, and blends.

Table 9.- Shell eggs: Monthly per capita consumption and prices, United States, 1955 to date

Item and year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total or average
Consumption per capita														
1955	Eggs	31.2	27.9	30.9	28.3	28.4	26.8	27.2	27.3	27.2	29.3	29.9	31.2	1/346
1956	do	30.7	28.8	31.0	28.5	27.5	25.7	27.5	26.9	27.0	28.9	29.1	31.2	1/343
1957	do	30.3	27.0	30.0	28.1	27.3	25.5	26.4	26.6	26.0	27.3	27.3	29.5	1/331
1958	do	28.9	25.1	29.2	27.2	26.4	24.7	26.0	26.1	25.6	27.1	27.6	28.5	1/323
1959 2/	do	28.4	25.1	28.8	26.1	27.4								
Price received by farmers, per dozen														
1955	Cents	32.2	39.6	39.8	35.9	33.8	33.8	35.2	39.5	43.8	43.0	43.4	47.2	38.9
1956	do	46.6	40.2	39.6	38.5	37.6	36.4	36.6	36.9	38.6	38.1	37.2	37.1	38.7
1957	do	33.7	33.3	31.1	31.1	29.5	29.6	32.8	36.9	40.9	43.9	46.0	44.6	35.8
1958	do	39.3	37.4	41.4	38.5	36.8	35.2	36.8	37.7	41.8	39.0	38.9	37.0	38.3
1959	do	36.4	35.8	34.1	28.1	25.1	24.9							
Retail price, per dozen, (AMS)														
1955	Cents	50.1	57.8	59.0	53.3	51.6	51.5	55.0	61.4	64.4	64.1	62.4	66.2	58.1
1956	do	65.5	58.0	58.1	56.5	55.6	54.0	55.9	56.8	58.9	59.5	57.5	56.2	57.7
1957	do	52.0	52.5	49.5	48.9	47.2	46.0	51.9	56.0	61.0	65.3	64.3	64.0	54.9
1958	do	59.3	55.7	61.9	57.2	54.9	52.9	55.3	57.2	64.6	60.0	58.9	56.4	58.0
1959	do	56.4	54.7	53.0	46.6	43.7								

1/ Excluding frozen or dried egg products, which were 25, 25, 27, and 26 in the years 1955 through 1958, respectively.

2/ Partly estimated and/or preliminary.

Table 10.--Supply and distribution of eggs, 1958

(including data for cover chart)

Category	Total			Disappearance, per capita
	As originally reported		Converted to case equivalent	
	Unit	Quantity		
			Thou. cs.	Eggs
Supply				
Production on farms	Mil. eggs	60,681	168,559	
Allowance for back-yard production			10,114	
Total production			178,673	
Imports 1/	Mil. doz.	2	66	
Shell eggs in storage at beginning of year	Thou. cs.	209	209	
Total supply			178,948	
Disposition				
Broken commercially	Thou. lb.	480,798	12,172	2/26
Disposition of commercially-broken liquid egg				
Frozen	do.	350,886	8,883	
Used directly for drying 3/	do.	98,578	2,496	
Used directly as liquid	do.	31,334	793	
Eggs used for hatching			9,566	
Exported as shell eggs	Mil. doz.	29	967	
Used by the military 4/	do.	72	2,400	
Shell eggs in storage at end of year	Thou. cs.	53	53	
Available for civilian consumption in shell form 5/			153,790	323
Total disappearance			178,948	349
Peak storage holdings during the year				
Shell	Thou. cs.	852	852	
Frozen	Thou. lb.	139,779	3,539	

1/ Both shell and processed. 2/ Computed after allowance for change in storage stocks. 3/ Not including frozen egg used for preparation of dried egg. 4/ Including some frozen and dried eggs. 5/ This is actually the balancing item to make supply and distribution equate with each other; the total does not allow for the overlap suggested by 4/. The per capita entry does allow for the double-counting.

Table 11.—Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound, 1955 to date, with comparisons

Item	Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Albumen														
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	25	21	20	25	37	50	54	54	47	37	30	23
	1956	Mil. lb.	17	11	9	15	25	39	50	52	50	45	40	34
	1957	Mil. lb.	28	26	24	26	33	43	53	56	52	46	39	32
	1958	Mil. lb.	26	24	23	21	25	35	44	48	45	40	32	27
	1959	Mil. lb.	22	19	18	19	26	34						
Average prices, per lb., first full week of month	1955	Ct.	15¾	20	21	18¾	19	19½	21	20	21½	23½	23½	24¼
	1956	Ct.	27	28	27½	23¾	24¼	23¼	23	22¼	21¾	21	18¾	17¾
	1957	Ct.	16¼	15¼	14¾	14	14	12½	12½	12	14	14	15	17
	1958	Ct.	16¼	13¾	13	13½	14 5/8	12 7/8	13	11½	11½	11¾	12¼	12
	1959	Ct.	11¼	11	10¾	9	10¼	10½						
Yolk														
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	18	16	17	23	32	43	50	49	46	41	35	29
	1956	Mil. lb.	23	18	15	20	29	38	44	46	41	38	32	26
	1957	Mil. lb.	20	17	15	17	23	29	35	39	36	31	26	21
	1958	Mil. lb.	16	12	11	10	15	25	36	37	35	30	25	20
	1959	Mil. lb.	16	12	11	15	25	34						
Average prices, per lb., first full week of month 1/	1955	Ct.	53	53	58½	50¼	53	52	52	51	52½	54½	54	54
	1956	Ct.	54½	54½	53	50½	51¾	49½	51½	53	53½	53½	54½	54½
	1957	Ct.	53	52½	51½	49½	52	51½	52½	3/	52½	54	55	3/
	1958	Ct.	4/	53½	58½	62	61½	62½	62	61	61	61½	61½	64
	1959	Ct.	61½	61¼	60½	53½	51¾	50						
Mixed whole														
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	29	25	23	32	52	71	81	82	78	69	56	44
	1956	Mil. lb.	29	19	15	22	35	56	69	71	69	63	54	44
	1957	Mil. lb.	34	28	23	30	46	63	72	73	68	62	51	40
	1958	Mil. lb.	29	24	22	17	23	34	45	50	48	43	33	25
	1959 5/	Mil. lb.	17	14	14	17	31	50						
Average prices, per lb., first full week of month 2/	1955	Ct.	26	32¾	32½	28¼	29¼	28½	29	29 7/8	29½	30½	29	31
	1956	Ct.	34¼	33½	4/	31¾	33½	32	32	32	31¾	30¾	28½	28¼
	1957	Ct.	25¼	26½	26	25 7/8	26	25¾	25¾	27	28¾	30	30¼	33¼
	1958	Ct.	29¾	29	30½	31	31¾	30¾	31¾	29¾	30½	29¼	30¾	31¼
	1959	Ct.	31	31¾	28¼	24¾	24¾	24¼						

1/ Highest color quoted. 2/ "Spring pack" whenever quoted separately. 3/ No quotation. 4/ Insufficient wholesale sales to report prices. 5/ Where applicable, includes stocks acquired by U. S. D. A. under its purchase program.

"Unclassified" frozen egg is not included in this table.

Table 12.--Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, January 1954 to date

Item and year	Unit	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
						(a) Monthly average data							
Average number of layers on hand													
1954	Mil.	343	334	322	309	295	283	276	283	307	331	342	345
1955	do.	338	328	319	306	294	283	276	280	299	321	331	334
1956	do.	331	325	315	305	294	285	281	288	306	323	332	336
1957	do.	332	324	314	303	293	282	277	283	298	311	318	321
1958	do.	318	311	304	295	287	281	279	284	298	312	321	326
1959	do.	324	318	312	303	292	281						
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1954	Eggs	1,484	1,498	1,837	1,819	1,847	1,672	1,579	1,475	1,366	1,384	1,376	1,482
1955	do.	1,548	1,491	1,800	1,844	1,900	1,751	1,672	1,537	1,417	1,444	1,412	1,492
1956	do.	1,562	1,586	1,832	1,839	1,891	1,745	1,694	1,585	1,452	1,492	1,459	1,559
1957	do.	1,602	1,539	1,861	1,872	1,918	1,772	1,714	1,613	1,481	1,478	1,447	1,574
1958	do.	1,655	1,531	1,798	1,863	1,934	1,794	1,752	1,650	1,517	1,546	1,532	1,614
1959	do.	1,659	1,604	1,907	1,910	1,959	1,824						
Total monthly egg production													
1954	Mil. cs.	14.2	13.9	16.4	15.6	15.1	13.1	12.1	11.6	11.7	12.7	13.1	14.2
1955	do.	14.5	13.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.8	12.8	11.9	11.8	12.9	13.0	13.8
1956	do.	14.4	14.3	16.0	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.2	12.7	12.3	13.4	13.4	14.5
1957	do.	14.8	13.8	16.2	15.8	15.6	13.9	13.2	12.7	12.3	12.8	12.8	14.0
1958	do.	14.6	13.2	15.2	15.3	15.4	14.0	13.6	13.0	12.5	13.4	13.7	14.6
1959	do.	14.9	14.2	16.5	16.1	15.9	14.3						
						(b) First-of-month data							
Number of layers on hand													
1954	Mil.	347	339	328	316	301	289	277	274	291	323	339	346
1955	do.	344	332	325	312	300	287	278	274	285	314	328	335
1956	do.	333	329	321	309	300	289	281	281	294	317	329	334
1957	do.	337	328	320	309	298	287	277	277	289	307	315	321
1958	do.	321	314	307	300	290	283	278	280	289	306	317	326
1959	do.	327	320	316	309	298	287	276					
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1954	Eggs	46.8	48.9	58.1	60.4	60.8	58.3	53.1	48.6	46.5	44.5	44.8	46.9
1955	do.	48.7	51.1	55.4	60.7	62.3	60.3	56.6	51.2	47.9	46.6	46.7	47.6
1956	do.	48.7	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8	60.3	56.1	53.2	49.0	47.8	48.5	48.8
1957	do.	51.7	51.7	58.2	61.9	63.0	60.8	57.3	53.3	50.7	48.0	47.4	49.1
1958	do.	52.5	54.3	55.1	60.9	63.3	61.5	58.1	54.9	51.6	49.5	50.3	51.9
1959	do.	52.3	54.8	59.8	63.3	64.0	62.5	59.2					
Daily rate of egg production													
1954	Mil. eggs	162	166	191	191	183	169	147	133	135	144	152	162
1955	do.	168	170	180	190	187	173	158	140	137	146	153	159
1956	do.	162	171	184	188	185	174	157	150	144	152	160	163
1957	do.	174	169	186	191	188	175	159	148	147	147	149	158
1958	do.	169	171	169	183	184	174	162	154	149	152	159	169
1959	do.	171	176	189	195	191	179	164					

Table 13.--Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks, and chickens raised, 1955 to date

Month and item	Unit	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 1/
Hatchings						
January	Millions	32.9	39.3	30.5	34.0	35.4
February	do.	71.2	84.0	56.3	61.6	59.9
March	do.	148.8	149.5	109.4	112.9	120.2
April	do.	163.9	159.4	129.4	135.4	132.9
May	do.	107.9	108.8	90.8	109.7	87.9
June	do.	32.7	34.7	27.9	40.4	2/
July	do.	14.9	15.4	11.9	18.2	
August	do.	12.6	14.3	10.2	14.8	
September	do.	14.1	14.8	12.3	16.6	
October	do.	16.6	17.1	13.0	16.9	
November	do.	15.5	14.7	12.2	16.2	
December	do.	17.5	15.9	15.7	19.6	
Total, calendar year	do.	648.6	667.9	519.5	596.3	
Total, 12 months ending July of given year	do.		667.4	533.0	575.6	
Chickens raised, calendar year	do.	461.9	478.6	396.6	433.0	
Pullets on hand, January 1 following						
(a) Number	do.	238.6	249.6	224.6	243.8	
(b) As a percentage of chickens raised	Percent	52	52	57	56	
Sexed pullets as a percentage of farmers' chick purchases	do.	50	53	60	65	3/66

1/ Preliminary. 2/ If the June hatch is in proportion to the June 1 eggs in incubators, about 27 million replacement chicks will be hatched in that month. 3/ February intentions.

Table 14.--Hatchings of replacement-type chicks, by divisions, January-May 1959, with comparisons

Division	Hens and pullets on farms, Jan. 1, 1959	Chickens raised		Hatchings, January-May				Eggs in incubators June 1, 1959 as a percent of a year earlier
		1958	1959 intentions as a percentage of 1958 1/	1957	1958	1959	1959 as a percentage of 1958	
	Millions	Millions	Percent	Millions	Millions	Millions	Percent	Percent
New England	15.8	221.6	103	19.4	22.7	20.2	89	68
Middle Atlantic	45.3	42.8		46.9	52.8	49.1	93	64
East North Central	65.7	77.0	94	102.2	101.2	90.2	89	63
West North Central	92.6	119.6		150.7	170.3	155.0	91	52
South Atlantic	39.4	58.5	104	21.5	26.3	34.2	130	98
East South Central	24.5	33.6	108	12.9	14.8	17.5	118	93
West South Central	26.3	31.9		22.0	22.6	23.8	105	72
Mountain	8.8	12.1	102	8.0	8.4	7.9	94	56
Pacific	33.7	37.7		32.7	34.5	38.4	111	92
United States	352.1	435.8	99	416.4	453.7	436.3	96	69

1/ These data available on a 5-region basis only. The bracketed regions in the preceding column indicate those which are combined to make a 5-region break.

Table 15.--Egg-feed price ratio, chickens raised, and pullets on farms, United States, 1925 to date

Year	Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Chickens raised	Pullets on farms, January 1 following	Percentage of preceding year			
				Egg-feed price ratio (weighted average) 1/	Farmers intentions to purchase chicks	Chickens raised	Pullets on farms, January 1 following
	Pounds	Millions	Millions	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1925	12.9	679		105		103	
1926	13.5	718		105		106	
1927	13.4	750		99		104	
1928	12.2	700		91		93	
1929	13.1	751	253	107		107	
1930	13.8	777	244	105		103	96
1931	10.6	709	230	77		91	94
1932	11.6	736	237	109		104	103
1933	14.3	750	238	123		102	100
1934	10.9	644	212	76		86	89
1935	11.4	658	226	105		102	107
1936	13.1	715	249	115		109	110
1937	9.4	601	215	72		84	86
1938	11.4	651	242	121	108	108	113
1939	12.6	697	254	111	108	107	105
1940	10.4	634	240	83	96	91	94
1941	11.5	745	278	111	109	118	116
1942	13.2	844	319	115	112	113	115
1943	14.7	1,001	350	111	116	119	110
1944	11.2	832	301	76	83	83	86
1945	12.8	890	322	114	96	107	107
1946	11.9	738	281	93	86	83	87
1947	11.3	719	278	95	94	97	99
1948	9.8	615	258	87	80	86	93
1949	12.7	705	287	130	107	115	111
1950	9.6	620	258	76	88	77	90
1951	11.4	623	261	119	96	101	101
1952	9.1	561	238	80	90	90	91
1953	11.3	548	255	124	96	98	107
1954	10.9	540	257	96	100	99	101
1955	9.7	462	239	89	82	86	93
1956	12.1	479	250	125	103	104	105
1957	9.3	397	225	77	91	83	90
1958 2/	11.9	433	244	128	106	109	108
1959 2/	10.0			84	99		

1/ Weights are as follows: Preceding November, 1; preceding December, 2; January, 3; February, 4; March, 5; April, 3; May, 1.

2/ Preliminary.

Table 16--Pullets saved and related available data, selected years, 1950 to date

Item	Unit	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 1/
Replacement-type chicks hatched, 12 months beginning preceding September	Mil.							669.1	528.8	580.3	
Chickens raised	Mil.	619.8	622.9	561.0	547.5	539.9	461.9	478.6	396.6	435.8	
Percentage composition of farmer' purchases of replacement type chicks											
a. Straight run	Pct.	63	62	58	53	45	43	40	33	28	(28)
b. Sexed pullets	Pct.	32	33	37	42	49	50	53	60	65	(66)
c. Sexed cockerels	Pct.	5	5	5	5	6	7	7	7	7	(6)
d. Computed percentage of pullets in total purchases	Pct.	63.5	64.0	66.0	68.5	71.5	71.5	73.0	77.0	79.0	(80)
Pullets among chickens raised (computed)	Mil.	393.6	398.7	370.3	375.0	386.0	330.2	349.4	305.4	344.3	
Number of young birds on hand October 1											
Laying pullets	Mil.	140.7	143.4	142.4	154.5	168.3	147.9	166.6	143.3	155.9	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	142.2	144.5	116.6	111.8	104.3	94.3	92.3	83.2	96.5	
Pullets laying and not yet laying	Mil.	282.9	287.9	259.1	266.3	272.6	242.2	259.0	226.5	252.5	
Other young chickens	Mil.	75.5	73.5	58.7	57.6	41.8	35.6	29.9	27.7	31.4	
Pullets and young chickens	Mil.	358.4	361.5	317.7	323.9	314.5	277.8	288.9	254.2	283.9	
Number of young birds on hand January 1 following											
Laying pullets	Mil.	228.7	231.4	215.0	231.3	232.7	211.1	217.4	193.4	207.2	
Pullets not yet laying	Mil.	29.4	30.0	22.6	23.8	24.5	27.4	32.2	31.2	36.6	
All pullets	Mil.	258.2	261.4	237.6	255.1	257.2	238.6	249.6	224.6	243.8	
October 1 pullets (laying and not laying) as a percentage of:											
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.							39	43	44	
Chickens raised	Pct.	46	46	46	49	50	52	54	57	58	
All pullets January 1 following as a percentage of:											
Replacement-type chicks hatched	Pct.							37	42	42	
Chickens raised	Pct.	42	42	42	47	48	52	52	57	56	

1/ Intended purchases of baby chicks.

Table 17.--Factors indicative of number of layers to be on hand

(a) Fall pullet numbers and derivation

Year	Chickens raised	Sexed pullets as a percentage of farmers' chick purchases	Computed number of pullets among chickens raised 1/	Pullets on hand: October 1: Laying	October 1: Not yet laying	October 1: Total	January 1 following: Laying	January 1 following: Not yet laying	January 1 following: Total
	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1946	738	22	435	126	199	325	244	37	281
1947	719	26	439	131	195	326	243	35	278
1948	615	30	387	125	176	301	227	31	258
1949	705	31	444	140	185	324	255	32	287
1950	620	32	397	141	142	283	229	29	258
1951	623	33	399	143	144	288	231	30	261
1952	561	37	370	142	117	259	215	23	238
1953	548	42	372	154	112	266	231	24	255
1954	540	49	383	168	104	273	233	25	257
1955	462	50	333	148	94	242	211	27	239
1956	479	53	349	167	92	259	217	32	250
1957	397	60	305	143	83	227	193	31	224
1958 2/	436	65	344	156	96	252	207	37	244
1959		3/66							

(b) Fall hen numbers and derivations

	Layers and potential layers on hand, January 1: Hens	Layers and potential layers on hand, January 1: Total, including pullets	Hens on hand: October 1	Hens on hand: January 1 following
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1946	151	473	202	150
1947	150	431	198	140
1948	140	418	193	141
1949	141	399	184	137
1950	137	424	189	141
1951	141	399	179	136
1952	136	397	172	135
1953	135	373	156	116
1954	116	371	154	111
1955	111	369	166	122
1956	122	360	150	119
1957	119	369	164	128
1958	128	353	150	120
1959	120	263		

1/ Computed with allowance for pullets among straight-run chicks bought.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Intentions.

Table 18.--Monthly price and supply of broilers, and red meat supply, 1955 to date

Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average (weighted) or total
						(a) U. S. average mid-month broiler price, per lb.								
1955	Ct.	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4	25.2
1956	Ct.	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6	19.6
1957	Ct.	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4	18.9
1958	Ct.	19.9	20.4	21.4	19.4	20.3	21.1	19.3	17.6	16.3	15.8	15.8	15.1	18.5
1959 3/	Ct.	17.4	17.2	17.3	16.3	16.0	15.8							
						(b) Lagged monthly hatchings of broiler chicks, 1/ (except annual total which is U. S. broiler production)								
1955	Mil.				81.2	92.1	105.4	109.7	115.9	111.8	111.0	98.8	86.9	1,091.7
1956	Mil.	93.4	95.9	102.7	110.9	114.9	132.4	134.9	142.6	137.9	128.4	123.1	106.9	1,343.7
1957	Mil.	107.3	107.8	108.8	128.6	122.4	139.3	141.3	147.6	141.9	143.5	132.2	119.4	1,447.5
1958 2/	Mil.	116.4	126.5	140.0	137.2	151.3	163.0	180.7	177.6	172.0	153.0	130.3	133.5	1,659.6
1959 3/	Mil.	133.6	148.0	151.9	148.2	182.2	178.7	173.6						
						(c) Monthly commercial production of red meats 4/								
1955	Mil.lb.	2,192	1,854	2,176	1,929	1,964	2,001	1,815	2,158	2,227	2,324	2,398	2,433	25,471
1956	Mil.lb.	2,474	2,182	2,264	2,107	2,147	2,059	2,078	2,136	2,070	2,511	2,411	2,204	26,643
1957	Mil.lb.	2,439	2,027	2,098	2,041	2,166	1,917	2,099	2,084	2,098	2,405	2,097	2,096	25,567
1958 2/	Mil.lb.	2,268	1,807	1,907	1,984	1,948	1,934	2,011	1,939	2,119	2,314	1,965	2,182	24,378
1959 3/	Mil.lb.	2,244	1,984	2,087	2,156	2,021								

1/ Through 1957, lagged 3 months; thereafter, lagged 2 months.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ Excludes lard and rendered pork fat.

Table 19.--Broilers: Prices per pound, selected areas, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
	(a) U. S. mid-month average price received by farmers, live											
1954	24.2	22.6	23.5	24.3	23.7	24.4	25.4	24.9	23.0	21.0	20.1	19.2
1955	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4
1956	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6
1957	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4
1958	19.9	20.4	21.4	19.4	20.3	21.1	19.3	17.6	16.3	15.8	15.8	15.1
1959	17.4	17.2	17.3	16.3	16.0	15.8						
	(b) Del-Mar-Va, average price, live 1/											
1954	22.2	20.9	21.9	25.1	21.8	24.7	25.3	25.0	24.1	18.0	21.8	19.1
1955	25.1	26.9	29.8	32.0	25.2	28.1	28.0	28.0	26.9	20.8	18.7	19.7
1956	21.5	22.9	22.9	20.9	21.2	19.1	22.9	19.3	18.4	18.1	16.4	17.2
1957	18.1	20.8	21.9	20.2	19.1	21.8	22.1	21.8	19.2	17.0	16.7	16.1
1958	18.8	20.3	22.3	19.2	21.4	22.3	20.7	18.5	16.2	15.7	17.0	15.0
1959	16.8	16.5	16.9	16.9	17.2	16.2	17.2					
	(c) North Georgia, price at farm, live 1/											
1954	22.0	22.0	23.3	23.8	21.4	22.2	24.5	25.2	22.6	18.2	21.0	18.7
1955	22.0	23.7	28.1	29.9	25.3	26.5	24.3	26.0	25.0	21.0	21.1	18.7
1956	21.3	21.1	21.0	19.6	20.0	18.2	21.4	18.8	16.6	17.0	16.0	15.1
1957	16.4	19.6	19.8	19.1	17.8	20.1	20.2	20.0	17.6	15.8	15.6	16.2
1958	17.7	19.2	21.0	18.2	19.8	20.0	19.2	17.0	15.4	15.8	15.9	14.4
1959	15.1	15.2	15.7	16.2	14.9	14.5	16.0					
	(d) San Joaquin Valley of California, country paying price 1/											
1954	25.4	26.5	25.0	24.5	24.1	28.4	25.5	28.5	24.6	24.0	24.2	21.5
1955	22.4	26.0	30.6	33.0	27.5	30.0	28.0	29.0	28.1	23.8	21.0	20.7
1956	21.1	22.1	21.1	21.6	22.0	22.0	23.5	23.0	21.5	18.6	16.4	17.0
1957	22.8	19.5	24.6	19.2	19.6	22.0	22.0	22.3	20.6	16.5	16.6	16.8
1958	18.9	21.9	23.6	20.6	21.6	22.0	21.9	19.4	17.6	15.8	18.2	15.6
1959	17.6	18.4	18.7	17.8	18.6	17.8	19.0					
	(e) Chicago, eviscerated broilers, wholesale 1/											
1954	39.7	37.4	39.1	39.2	36.1	37.7	40.5	41.1	37.6	32.5	35.4	32.5
1955	35.8	38.8	45.2	47.2	41.0	42.6	39.8	42.2	32.6	35.2	34.2	32.2
1956	36.3	35.9	35.8	33.6	33.6	32.0	35.2	32.5	30.1	28.6	27.8	26.3
1957	29.3	33.8	33.6	32.5	29.4	33.9	33.4	33.6	30.5	27.5	26.8	27.2
1958	29.2	32.2	35.0	31.5	33.9	34.2	2/32.8	29.8	27.1	27.6	28.4	25.8
1959	26.1	27.3	28.0	28.6	26.6	26.5	28.8					
	(f) New York, N. Y. dressed broilers, 2½ lb., wholesale 1/											
1954	30.1	28.4	28.6	32.2	29.3	30.6	31.0	30.2	30.2	25.0	26.7	25.0
1955	31.7	32.7	35.6	37.0	31.2	35.0	34.1	33.0	33.4	25.9	26.8	24.2
1956	27.4	27.0	27.4	25.0	26.6	26.8	28.1	24.8	24.2	22.8	21.1	22.2
1957	24.2	25.2	26.8	25.4	24.6	26.5	27.1	27.4	26.8	22.8	23.8	22.8
1958	24.6	26.6	27.3	26.6	28.0	28.3	2/27.1	23.8	22.5	20.5	21.5	20.6
	(g) New York, iced packed broilers, 2-3 pounds, eviscerated, f.o.b. 1/											
1958	31.7	33.4	36.4	32.4	34.6	34.7	32.4	30.0	27.5	27.9	28.5	26.0
1959	28.0	28.6	28.6	29.8	27.8	27.0	29.0					

1/ First full week of month, except July 1959, which is for July 1 and 2. 2/ 4 day average.

Table 20.--Pullet chick placements for broiler hatchery supply flocks by leading primary breeders, 1957 to date 1/

Month	1957		1958		1959		1959 as a percentage of 1958	
	For the month	Sum of this and 6 preceding months	For the month	Sum of this and 6 preceding months	For the month	Sum of this and 6 preceding months	For the month	Sum of this and 6 preceding months
	Million chicks	Million chicks	Million chicks	Million chicks	Million chicks	Million chicks	Percent	Percent
January	1.9	13.0	2.0	13.5	2.1	17.4	105	129
February	2.0	13.2	2.3	14.1	2.4	16.7	104	118
March	2.5	13.9	3.1	15.8	3.4	17.5	110	111
April	3.0	15.1	3.3	17.2	3.8	18.6	115	108
May	2.9	16.0	3.6	18.5	3.0	18.9	83	102
June	2.1	16.2	3.4	19.9				
July	1.7	16.1	3.1	20.8				
August	1.4	15.6	2.6	21.4				
September	1.9	15.6	2.7	21.9				
October	2.3	15.3	2.6	21.3				
November	1.9	14.2	2.1	20.1				
December	2.2	13.5	2.1	18.6				
Annual total	25.9	---	33.0	---				

1/ Includes expected pullet replacements from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per case of eggs.

Table 21.--Broilers: Volume of exchange (auction) sales and total slaughter, Georgia, available data, March 1959 to date

Date	March			April			May			June			July		
	Daily Auction volume		Weekly slaughter, State of Georgia	Daily Auction volume		Weekly slaughter, State of Georgia	Daily Auction volume		Weekly slaughter, State of Georgia	Daily Auction volume		Weekly slaughter, State of Georgia	Daily Auction volume		Weekly slaughter, State of Georgia
	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold	
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
1					225)		485	372		397	208)		---	---)	5,431
2		)			218)	5,495				475	310)		495	371)	
3		)			220)					---	---)	6,435	---	---)	
4		)	5,475				---	---)		624	263)				
5		)					409	391)		550	460)				
6		)		---	---)		418	339)	6,367						
7					277)		402	386)							
8					238)	5,165	375	332)		509	435)				
9		)			119)					467	398)				
10		)			199)					---	---)	6 928			
11		)	5,090				---	---)		472	427)				
12		)					506	254)		407	219)				
13		)			---)		645	477)	6,114						
14					207)		513	332)							
15					284)	5,604	509	428)		517	468)				
16		)			364)					474	322)				
17		)			359)					---	---)	6,463			
18		)	4,675				---	---)		485	417)				
19		)					464	418)		616	577)				
20		)		---	---)		506	361)	6,069						
21				289	260)		668	445)							
22				316	308)	5,970	718	271)		510	487)				
23		)		386	386)					---	---)				
24		)		380	351)					---	---)	7,042			
25		)	4,605				---	---)		614	354)				
26		)					519	282)		694	320)				
27		)		---	---)		407	366)	6,280						
28				312	123)	5,415	559	391)							
29				350	219)		517	313)		603	182)				
30				411	205)					488	179)				
31		244 1/													

1/ Date of first sale.

Table 22.--Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
	(a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States											
1954	33.2	33.9	33.6	33.3	31.0	31.3	28.6	27.8	27.6	27.0	28.5	29.6
1955	27.4	29.5	30.4	29.7	28.9	29.4	29.6	29.5	31.0	31.2	29.8	30.5
1956	30.6	31.0	31.3	30.8	30.6	29.1	28.6	28.3	26.7	25.9	25.9	27.8
1957	26.6	25.3	25.5	25.8	24.2	23.3	21.8	22.7	22.9	22.3	23.5	24.5
1958	22.0	24.6	26.7	26.7	27.3	25.5	24.5	24.8	23.7	23.9	23.0	23.3
1959	23.9	24.9	23.6	23.0	22.4	22.5						
	(b) Live, heavy-type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/											
1954	29-30	---	---	---	---	25-26	24-25	24-25	24	22-22½	23-24	23-24
1955	21½-23	---	---	---	---	25-26	28	27	27-29½	29-30	26½-27	26½-27
1956	---	---	---	---	---	30-33	28	25-26	24½-26	25-25½	23-24½	26-28
1957	---	---	---	---	22	20-21	17	18-19	21	19½	18½-19	20-21
1958	17-19	---	---	---	---	22-23	21	23	20-21	20	19-19½	20
1959	24	---	---	23	21-23	24	26					
	(c) Live, heavy-type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	26	28	28	28	28	31-32	31½-32
1955	---	---	---	---	---	25-26	30	29	30½-31	34½-35	33	31½-32½
1956	---	---	---	---	---	31	27-28	26½	27½-28	27-27½	25½-26	25½-26
1957	---	---	---	---	24	22	20	20-21	21½-22	22	22-22½	27-27¼
1958	24	---	---	---	---	28	26	26½	24	24-24½	23-23½	22-23
1959	24	---	---	18	18-19	24	22					
	(d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/											
1954	51-54	51-54	51½-54½	49½-53½	49-53½	50-52	46½-49	47-49	47-49	46½-49	44-48	43½-46
1955	43-45	44-48	44½-48	46-49	47½-50½	48½-52½	49½-53	51-54	55½-57	50½-54	48-50	47½-48½
1956	53-54	54-55	54-55	57½-58	61½-62	64-65	65-65½	65½-66	60-61	50-52	43-44½	48-49½
1957	47½-49	46-47	44-44½	45-46½	42-44	44-45	40-43	40-41	37½-40½	38-39½	38-40½	40-41½
1958	39-41	38½-41	38½-40½	38½-40½	41-42	42½-43½	42-43	40½-42	39-41	40-43	39½-43	39-43
1959	40½-44	44-46½	44-46½	44-46½	44-46	50½-53	54-55					
	(e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/											
1954	60-61½	60-61½	60-61½	59½-61½	---	---	51-53	45½-48	48-49½	47-49	49½-51	51-53
1955	48-51	48-51	48-50	48-50	51½-53½	51½-53½	50-52	48-49½	49½-51	51-52½	52-54	50½-52
1956	50-51	50-51	49½-51	50-51½	53½-54	52½-53½	47-48½	46-47	43½-44½	44-44½	44-45	44-45½
1957	42-43	39-40	39½-41½	42½-43½	---	42½-43½	---	37-38	37½-38	38-39	40-40½	43-44
1958	43-44	43-44	46-47	50-50½ 2/	45-46	49-50	45-46	41½-42½	40-41½	40-41½	40-41½	39-41
1959	39-40½	40-41	40-41	38-40	37-39	38-40	36-38½					
	(f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/											
1954	37	35	37	33	30	30-31	27-29½	26-26½	27½-28	29	31-32	32
1955	28	30	30	30	31	31	30½-31	30-30½	30-30½	30½-31	30-31½	28-28½
1956	29½	---	33	30-31	29-30	29	26½-27	26½	25-26	25	25½-26	26-27
1957	26	26-27	26	26	24-25	23-23½	23	23	23-23½	23-23½	24½-25	30
1958	24-25	27	30	30	28½-30	28	25-26	24½-25	24-25	24-24½	25½-26½	24-25
1959	23	25	25-25½	21-22	22-22½	22-22½	22½-23					
	(g) Live, heavy-type toms, Iowa, first Friday of month 3/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	24½	26	24-24½	23-24	25-25½
1955	20-23	---	23½	---	20-22	---	---	27	29-31	30	26-27	28-28½
1956	---	---	---	---	28-30½	28-30	28	29-30	25-25½	24-25	23-23½	27-30
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	21	20	19½-20½	20-20½	20	22-22¾
1958	21	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	22	22-22¼	20	20-21½
1959	---	---	---	---	---	---	4/5/27-33					
	(h) Live, heavy-type hens, Iowa, first Friday of month 3/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	28	30¼-30½	29-30	32½-33	35-35½
1955	---	27½	---	---	---	---	32-33	30½-31½	34	37	33	32-34
1956	---	---	---	---	28-28½	27½-28	28	28½	26-26½	27½-28	27-27½	28-28½
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	21½-22	23	22-23	23-24	25	28-28¼
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	27	26½-27	25	26-26½	24	23
1959	---	---	---	---	---	---	4/22-23					

1/ Or next date when quotation is available. 2/ 14-15 pounds. 3/ Beginning 1958, first day of month, or first available quotation thereafter. 4/ Following business day. 5/ Toms 25 pounds and up.

Table 23.--Turkeys: Hatchings of poults, by breed types, monthly and cumulative, September 1954 to date

Year and month	For the month				Cumulative, years beginning September			
	Heavy breeds		Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds		Light breeds	All turkeys
	White	All			White	All		
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1954 September		1/	0.7	0.7		1/	0.7	0.7
October		0.1	.7	.8		0.1	1.4	1.5
November		.2	1.0	1.2		.3	2.4	2.7
December		.5	1.7	2.2		.8	4.1	4.9
1955 January		1.2	1.4	2.6		2.0	5.5	7.5
February		2.7	1.1	3.8		4.7	6.6	11.3
March		7.8	1.1	8.9		12.5	7.7	20.2
April		12.8	1.8	14.6		25.3	9.5	34.8
May		14.8	2.4	17.2		40.1	11.9	52.0
June		9.0	2.6	11.6		49.1	14.5	63.6
July		2.1	2.2	4.3		51.2	16.7	67.9
August		.3	1.2	1.5		51.5	17.9	69.4
September		.1	.4	.5		.1	.4	.6
October		.2	.3	.5		.3	.7	1.0
November		.4	.5	.9		.8	1.2	2.0
December		1.0	.9	1.9		1.8	2.1	3.9
1956 January	0.9	2.0	.9	2.9	0.9	3.7	3.0	6.8
February	1.2	4.9	.8	5.7	2.0	8.7	3.9	12.5
March	1.9	11.4	1.0	12.4	3.9	20.1	4.9	25.0
April	3.0	16.3	1.6	17.8	6.9	36.4	6.4	42.8
May	3.7	17.2	2.4	19.6	10.6	53.5	8.9	62.4
June	2.8	11.0	2.5	13.4	13.4	64.5	11.3	75.8
July	1.6	3.1	2.2	5.3	15.0	67.6	13.5	81.2
August	.7	.7	1.1	1.8	15.6	68.3	14.7	83.0
September	.3	.3	.4	.7	.3	.3	.4	.7
October	.4	.4	.3	.7	.7	.7	.7	1.4
November	.6	.8	.7	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.4	2.9
December	.9	2.0	1.1	3.1	2.1	3.5	2.4	6.0
1957 January	1.0	3.3	1.0	4.3	3.3	6.8	3.5	10.3
February	1.1	5.8	.8	6.7	4.3	12.6	4.3	17.0
March	1.6	12.1	1.1	13.2	6.0	24.7	5.4	30.1
April	2.5	17.2	1.6	18.8	8.5	41.9	7.0	48.9
May	3.3	17.6	2.4	20.0	11.8	59.5	9.4	68.8
June	2.6	11.0	2.3	13.2	14.4	70.4	11.7	82.1
July	1.3	2.9	1.9	4.8	15.7	73.3	13.6	86.9
August	.6	.7	.9	1.6	16.3	74.0	14.4	88.4
September	.3	.3	.2	.6	.3	.3	.2	.6
October	.3	.4	.2	.5	.6	.7	.4	1.1
November	.5	.7	.3	1.0	1.1	1.4	.7	2.1
December	.7	1.5	.6	2.1	1.8	2.9	1.3	4.2
1958 January	.8	2.5	.8	3.3	2.6	5.4	2.1	7.5
February	.9	4.6	1.0	5.6	3.5	10.0	3.1	13.1
March	1.3	10.9	1.1	12.1	4.8	20.9	4.3	25.2
April	2.2	15.8	1.6	17.3	7.1	36.7	5.8	42.5
May	3.0	17.2	2.2	19.3	10.1	53.9	8.0	61.8
June	2.4	11.9	2.1	14.1	12.5	65.8	10.1	75.9
July	1.6	4.5	2.0	6.5	14.1	70.3	12.1	82.4
August	.8	.9	1.1	2.0	14.9	71.3	13.2	84.4
September	.5	.5	.5	1.1	.5	.5	.5	1.1
October	.6	.7	.5	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.0	2.3
November	.8	1.1	.7	1.8	1.9	2.3	1.7	4.1
December	1.1	1.7	1.1	2.8	3.0	4.0	2.8	6.9
1959 January	1.2	2.4	1.5	3.9	4.2	6.4	4.3	10.8
February	1.1	4.6	1.3	5.9	5.3	11.0	5.6	16.7
March	1.9	11.0	1.7	12.8	7.2	22.0	7.3	29.5
April	2.8	15.9	1.9	17.7	10.0	37.9	9.2	47.2
May	3.9	17.7	2.9	20.6	13.9	55.6	12.1	67.8
June 2/	3.2	11.4	2.1	13.5	17.1	67.0	14.2	81.3

1/ Less than .05 million. 2/ Assuming that June hatch will be proportionate to reported number of eggs in incubators June 1.

Table 24.--Turkeys: Storage stocks, monthly, United States, 1945 to date, and weekly, 35 cities, August 1958 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
	(a) First-of-month, United States											
1945	73	74	63	46	33	29	27	21	18	27	43	78
1946	108	135	135	124	107	97	79	63	55	45	84	117
1947	128	140	126	109	95	86	72	59	45	39	65	86
1948	83	83	70	55	41	33	27	19	13	15	34	47
1949	51	55	51	44	36	33	29	21	21	35	76	107
1950	127	138	129	113	93	77	64	47	37	43	77	108
1951	110	117	101	80	60	48	39	30	25	42	83	109
1952	107	116	107	93	72	63	56	46	44	71	142	158
1953	147	143	118	92	72	60	53	44	46	69	126	135
1954	122	125	109	97	79	69	57	48	51	78	141	447
1955	121	124	111	93	71	60	52	45	48	77	144	129
1956	95	96	83	64	49	41	36	36	53	98	197	194
1957	162	170	150	137	109	98	92	90	102	149	241	220
1958	177	179	154	131	105	84	80	79	104	161	255	208
1959	162	160	141	112	87	67						
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks 1/	1959							1958				
First	80	78	70	58	45	34	32	39	52	79	115	97
Second	81	76	69	55	42	33		40	58	86	125	100
Third	81	73	65	51	39	33		42	63	95	125	90
Fourth	79	72	60	48	36	33		46	70	105	111	79
Fifth	80							49			96	

1/ Holdings on successive Saturdays of each month.

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